

TENNESSEE EQIP & WHIP SCREENING TOOL FY 2009

APPLICANT _____
TRACT(S) _____
FARM(S) _____
APPLICATION NUMBER _____

DATE _____
PROGRAM **EQIP** *OR* **WHIP**
(Circle one)

Background: Each year NRCS receives more applications than can be funded. In order to work effectively with all our customers, we are implementing this screening process.

Instructions: Answer the three questions below. Below each question is the criterion for answering each question. Only applications with all "yes" answers will be ranked for funding. All other applications will be deferred until all questions can be answered "yes".

1. Have all the applicable application forms been properly signed and submitted? (yes or no)

- ☐ Basic Program Application: Form NRCS-CPA-1200 with Appendix signed by all program participants or authorized persons
- ☐ Evidence of Beginning and Limited Resource Farmers and Rancher eligibility, if applicable
- ☐ Form FSA-211 (dated 12-17-08) or NRCS-CPA-09: Power of Attorney, if applicable to designate persons authorized to sign documents
- ☐ Form AD-1026: Highly Erodible Land Conservation – Wetland Conservation Certification
- ☐ Form CCC-901A: Entity Member Information, if applicable
- ☐ Form CCC-926: Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Statement (dated 11-20-08)
- ☐ Form SF-1199A: Direct Deposit Sign-Up Form. All payments must be electronically deposited
- ☐ Producer Certification of Irrigation History, if applicable

- ☐ Land ownership or control – You are required to provide evidence of control of land for the contract period. This can be done through ownership documents (deeds, etc) or lease (rental agreements, permits, lease, etc).
- ☐ Signature authority – If the applicant is an entity, documents such as articles of incorporation, charter, bylaws, partnership agreements, trust agreements, wills and similar legal evidence that clearly identify who has the authority to sign on behalf of the entity.
- ☐ Proof of Identity –Authorized persons are required to show valid state driver's license, passport or other personal identification as well as provide Social Security or Employer Identification (EIN) numbers, address and other related information.

2. Is the applicant "ready to implement" the planned conservation practices for which they are applying? (yes or no)

- ☐ Quantities of materials have been determined for all planned practices
- ☐ Designs - for all practices have been completed (must meet NRCS specifications)
- ☐ Price of work and materials needed to complete the project have been determined by the applicant
- ☐ Permits – when required, all permits to complete the project must be in hand
- ☐ Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) is in hand when the applicant is applying for animal waste storage or treatment facility

3. Is the answer to at least one National Priority Question for the Program answered "yes"? (yes or no)

- ☐ Seven National Priority Questions and Tennessee clarifiers are on a separate page

Planning, designs and permits can take significant time depending on complexity. Cultural resources and threatened and endangered species reviews must be completed before work can begin. All dollars come with deadlines. Deadlines for ranking in TN are set at the state office level and consistent statewide.

By signing this Screening Tool, I acknowledge that I will only be ranked for funding after all answers are "yes".

Conservationist Signature _____

Applicant Signature _____